

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Thus, in response to the objection to the disclosure, the spelling error noted by the Examiner at page 17, line 25 has been corrected, rendering the objection moot.

In response to the rejection of claims 1-34 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, claim 1 has been amended in a manner which overcomes this rejection. Accordingly, the rejection is now considered to be moot.

The patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosures of the references relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims will be apparent upon consideration of the following remarks.

Thus, all of the prior art rejections set forth on pages 2-4 of the Office Action are respectfully traversed.

Each of these rejections is based on the Shiota et al. reference (US 6,797,184) alone or combined with another reference. The Shiota et al. reference, although having different inventors than the present application, is commonly assigned with the present application, to NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD. This reference is initially available as prior art against the present application under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), but is not available under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) or (b). Therefore, the use of the Shiota et al. reference as prior art against the present invention can be overcome by establishing common ownership. For this purpose, Applicants are enclosing copies of the recorded Assignment documents for each of the present application and the Shiota et al. reference. The Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document for the Shiota et al. reference refers to Serial No. 09/753,682, which is the parent application of the Shiota et al. reference. [The Shiota et al. reference is a divisional application of the parent application.] As apparent from the Assignment, it applies to the divisional application, i.e. the Shiota et al. reference.

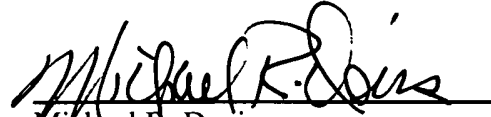
In view of this common ownership, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the prior art rejections should be withdrawn.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the grounds of objection and rejection set forth by the Examiner has been overcome, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Davis", written over a horizontal line.

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